THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) The proposal for setting up of Special Economic Zones as duly recommended by the State Governments is considered and approved on merit by the Government of India. In Gujarat, Formal Approval has been accorded to 47 proposals, out of which 24 Special Economic Zones have been notified till date. In-Principle Approvals have also been granted in respect of 12 proposals for setting up of Special Economic Zones. 20 proposals for setting up of Special Economic Zones are pending for consideration by the Board of Approval.

(b) No such proposal is under consideration.

(c) Does not arise.

Export of iron ore

1708. SHRI R.C. SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that iron ore is being exported to other countries; and

(b) if so, the quantity and rate of export during the year 2007-08 and 2008-09 by public as well as private sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The quantities exported during 2007-08 and 2008-09 (April, 2008 to October, 2008) by public and private sector is given in Statement-I. (*See* below) MMTC is exporting iron ore to Japan and S. Korea on benchmark prices which are finalised every year and are applicable throughout the year. For exports to China, prices are finalised on transaction to transaction basis. Average price for medium grade fines exported to China during 2007-08 and 2008-09 (April, 2008 to November, 2008) and MMTC's prices for lumps and fines exported to Japan and S. Korea for the years 2007-08 and 2008-09 are given in Statement-II.

Statement-I

India's Iron Ore exports by public and private sector

(Qty in Million Tonnes)

Agency	2007-2008 (Prov.)	2008-2009 (Prov.) (April, 2008 to October, 2008)
Public Sector		
MMTC Ltd.	8.17	3.20
Kudremukh Iron Ore Co. Ltd. (KIOCL)	1.46	0.58
Others	0.93	0.13
Total (Public Sector)	10.56	3.91
Private Sector	93.71	38.15
Total Exports	104.27	42.06

Statement-II

Benchmark and Spot prices of Iron Ore Export

Year			Price in US$/DMT FOB basis
2007-08	Benchmark prices	Baila Lump	64.68
		Doni Lump	62.50
		Baila Fines	50.19
		Doni Fines	50.19
	Spot Prices – Range	Iron Ore Fines	65-157
2008-09	Benchmark prices	Baila Lump	127.10
		Doni Lump	122.82
		Baila Fines	90.28
		Doni Fines	90.28
	Spot Prices – Range	Iron Ore Fines	55-145

Note: (1) Benchmark prices are finalised for the full year and as such there is no change during the year;

(2) Spot prices are for 63.5/63% Fe grade iron ore fines. These prices change on transaction to transaction basis during the year;

(3) Spot prices for Lumps are not available.

Share of organized retail trade

1709. SHRI N.K. SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that according to study conducted at the behest of Government by the Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations, organized retail trade would have a 16 per cent share of the business by 2012;

(b) whether it is also a fact that an accounting firm Deloitte Haskins and Sells has projected that organized retail trade will account for 25 per cent of the business from current levels of 8 per cent by 2011; and

(c) which of the studies appears more realistic and is proposed to be adopted by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) Government assigned the study on impact of organised retail on unorganised retail to the Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations (ICRIER). The ICRIER in its report has observed that the organized retail which now constitutes a small four per cent of total retail sector is likely to grow at a much faster pace of 45-50 per cent per annum and quadruple its share in total retail trade to 16 per cent by 2011-12.